

FALL 2024

FIRST YEAR FAQ

ENVS 1200

Environmental
Challenges

Professor: Dr. Thomas Steele

If this is your first year at Saint Mary's, I would like to welcome you to the university and I hope to make your learning experience as interactive and exciting as possible. I am looking forward to being your instructor. The following information is intended to help you succeed in ENVS 1200.

Do I need to purchase a text book?

There is no textbook for this course, but you will be assigned articles to read. Some of your assignments will be based on these articles, and you will need to understand them in order to answer tests, spot quizzes, and/or assignments.

Do I need to attend class?

Yes. Lectures will be a combination of lectures and collaborative group work where you will work with other students on in-class assignments, quizzes, and discussions. Most of these will be graded and contribute to your final mark.

Is there a laboratory session?

Yes, in the lab, you will work on a group project throughout the term. For this group project, you will examine and collect your own data on a local environmental challenge. Exciting! Previous projects have studied pollinators, ocean acidification, urban noise, and many more. **Make sure that your project is approved by your instructor before you start.**

Lab sessions will be held once a week and it is important that you attend them. Only by doing this will you find out what is expected of you and how you can complete the assigned tasks successfully. You will submit sections of your work on a regular basis and feedback will be given to you so that you can submit a high-quality final report.

How can I prepare for class?

Consult your syllabus on a regular basis so that you can make sure that you do not miss anything. Keep up with weekly lectures and assignments and this practice will help you do well in the course.

Will there be office hours?

Office hours will be a combination of Zoom meetings and set hours for in-person meetings. If you want to arrange a separate meeting, please email me and we will find a time that is mutually agreeable.

Are late assignments accepted?

Unless otherwise stated, all assignments are to be submitted on time via Brightspace which is our university's online learning management system. You can submit your assignment up to three days after the due date, but there is a 10% penalty for each date that you are late.



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